

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05890 230055Z
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 PRS-01 /020 W
-----009555 230320Z /65
R 230005Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1162
INFO AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USDOC WASHDC

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, AS
SUBJ: SYDNEY TRADE CENTER

1. I AM INFORMED THAT THE DIRECTOR OF OUR SYDNEY TRADE CENTER HAS BEEN NOTIFIED BY TELEPHONE THAT THE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED AS OF SEPTEMBER 30.

2. THE CENTER HAS IN MY OPINION PERFORMED A USEFUL FUNCTION SINCE IT WAS OPENED IN THE EARLY 1970'S. CERTAINLY AMERICAN BUSINESS INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE FELT THIS TO BE TRUE, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE VARIOUS CAMPAIGNS TAKEN IN THE PAST AND PRESENT BY THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN AUSTRALIA (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM) TO KEEP THE CENTER OPEN.

3. THE TRADE CENTER DIRECTOR TELLS US THAT HE HAS BEEN BESIEGED BY THE PRESS SINCE WORD OF ITS CLOSING HAS LEAKED. THE CLOSING OF A U.S. INSTALLATION IN AUSTRALIA IS NATURALLY VIEWED AS A DIMINUATION OF THE U.S. PRESENCE, AND THUS INTEREST, IN AUSTRALIA. I AM NOT SAYING THAT MAINTENANCE OF THE SYDNEY TRADE CENTER IS IN ANY SENSE A POLITICAL IMPERATIVE; ITS CLOSURE, HOWEVER, I REGRET AS A LOSS OF SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THAT THE
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EXPEDIENT OF PERFORMING SIMILAR FUNCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON, AT A HIGHER PRICE I AM TOLD, WILL NOT EFFECTIVELY PRFORM.

4. IF IT IS TRUE THAT THE TRADE CENTER IS TO BE CLOSED, YET REPLACED BY A SERVICE THAT COSTS MORE, I AM AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN THE RATIONALE FOR THE ACTION. I WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE'S VIEWS.

ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 15056956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1521023
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYDNEY TRADE CENTER
TAGS: BEXP, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
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